



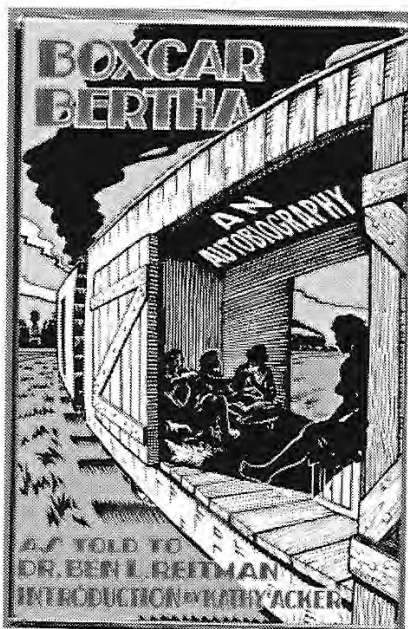
# Bo Tales

An Official Publication of the Original Hobo Nickel Society, Inc.  
www.hobonickels.org

Volume 11  
Issue No. 1  
Spring  
2002

## BOXCAR BERTHA

An autobiography as told to Dr. Ben L. Reitman with introduction by Kathy Acker



"BOXCAR BERTHA" by Dr. Ben L. Reitman, 1988 (first published 1937 as "Sister of the Road").

Boxcar Bertha Thompson was well prepared for a life on the road by her mother, who took her four children by four men with her to track worker's camps and to anarchist's settlements across America. At age seventeen, Bertha set off on her own, traveling by open freight car through the radical bohemia of the 1930's. Her autobiography, first published in 1937 as "Sister of the Road", is frank and a vivid account of her extraordinary experiences as a de-

pression-era hobo.

It is a story riveting not only for its first-hand impressions of hobo jungles, whorehouses, jails, skid roads, Chicago's Bug-house Square, New York's Greenwich Village, and life on the rails, but also for its exploration of women's position in the underbelly of American life. "I found that a great army of women had taken to the road", Bertha writes. "Their stories were very much the same - no work, a whole family on relief, no prospects of marriage, the need for a lark, the need for freedom of sex and of living, and the great urge to know what other women were doing". These women ran the gamut from prostitutes to labor organizers, from the lesbian acrobatic dancer Yvonne the Tzigane to the sexually compulsive amputee Leg-and-Half Peggy. As Luc Sante observed, at a time when the standard literature on vagrancy scarcely admitted the existence of female hoboes, Bertha was determined to discover what made them tick.

Bertha's vehicle for her autobiography, Dr. Ben L. Reitman, was himself no stranger to the world of drunks, murderers, two-bit hoods, pimps, wobblers, and anarchists that she inhabited. A crusader for hobo rights and lover of Emma Goldman, Reitman was a medical doctor who established

a practice specializing in venereal diseases, treating mostly prostitutes and tramps, as well as an early advocate of birth control. He is the subject of a biography, *The Damndest Radical*, by Roger A. Bruns, who provides an afterword to this edition. Kathy Acker, who has written a new introduction, is a poet and novelist whose books include *Don Quixote* and *Blood and Buts in High School*.

A must read if you have any interest at all in Hoboes.....

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## OHNS HOBO JUNGLE CENSUS FOR 2002-2003

### ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS:

Stephen "The Big One" Alpert, President, QD Examiner ..... quadra@pacbell.net  
P.O.Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066

Archie "Flick" Taylor, Vice President ..... elainet@gulftel.com  
P.O.Box 5305, Gulfshores, AL 36547

Gail "Bo-ette" Baker, Treasurer, QD Examiner, Scholarships ..... education@money.org  
Director of Education, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Verne "Fat Man" Walrafen, Secretary ..... WalrafenV@GrasshopperNet.com  
12000 Sunset Ridge Drive, Ozawie, KS 66070

### APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS:

Bill "Zemo" Fivaz, Past President, QD Examiner, Photographer ..... feev@webtv.net  
Don "Sport" Farnsworth, Publicity Director, QD Examiner ..... dfarnsworth@erols.com  
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### OTHER OFFICERS:

Sam "Banjo" Alfano, Webmaster ..... www.hobonickels.org ..... sam@hobonickel.net  
Don "H2O" Haley, Florida Corporate Agent ..... donH2OHaley@aol.com

**Cover Feature.....**The featured book and other materials in the Original Hobo Nickel Society's Library may be borrowed by simply making a request to the American Numismatic Association (ANA) by e-mail, phone or by writing, and asking for the publication that you would like to borrow. All you will have to do is pay for the postage both ways. You also want to keep it in the condition that you borrowed it in of course. You must have it back within 30 days, so take your time reading the material and enjoy.

### Bo Tales Publishing Schedule

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline for Submitting Articles</u>	<u>Publishing Date</u>
Volume 11, No. 1	February 1, 2002	March 1, 2002
Volume 11, No. 2	May 1, 2002	June 1, 2002
Volume 11, No. 3	August 1, 2002	September 1, 2002
Auction Catalog	October 1, 2002	December 1, 2002
Volume 12, No. 1	February 1, 2003	March 1, 2003

This schedule is dependent on the timely submittal of articles and pictures for each issue. Please submit your articles as soon as you can and as often as you would like so this Editor can publish them as needed. Send your correspondence to:  
OHNS Editor - Roger Wollam, 881 N. Sundown Dr., Otis, OR 97368

**Original Hobo Nickel Society**  
**12000 Sunset Ridge Drive**  
**Ozawkie, KS 66070-6045**

**Dear Hobo Friend:**

Thank you for your interest in the Original Hobo Nickel Society. We would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about the society.

We all share an appreciation for Hobo nickels! These unique pieces of metal combine the fields of numismatics, folk art, and history. The Indian head nickel is one of the most admired of all U.S. coins. Its design is true Americana! The years of its reign, 1913-1938, takes us through some of the most memorable periods in the history of the United States - the first World War, Prohibition and the Roaring 20's, and the Great Depression - times we must not forget.

Each hobo nickel is unique as they were all individually hand carved, using the design of either the Indian or the buffalo as a base, and altering it to another design altogether. The Indian has been changed into clowns, women, other Indians, friends and loved ones, bearded men, ethnic figures, famous people, and self-portraits. The buffalo has been turned into men with backpacks, and animals such as a donkey or elephant. The influence of the events of the times can be plainly seen as we view hoboes, servicemen in uniform, flapper girls, prisoners in chain gang garb, shopkeepers, and read dates, names, places, or other inscriptions put on the coins.

These nickels, carved by yesterday's homeless, were traded for meals, a place to sleep, a ride, or other favors. Some were carved with images of loved ones as mementos of better times, or to honor those lost to time. The specimens in our collections have stories to tell - wonderful stories to teach and educate future generations about men and women who struggled to survive; yet kept their faith in our Creator, themselves, and the American dream. They may have been wanderers, but they worked hard for what they needed, helped each other, and honored a code among hoboes.

**The Original Hobo Nickel Society**

The OHNS was formed at the 1992 ANA Summer Conference in Colorado Springs, after Bill Fivaz presented a slide show on hobo nickels. The goals of the Society were: start a newsletter (*Bo Tales*, now pulished quarterly), begin a hobo nickel evaluation service (fully underway for many years), educate numismatists and the general public about hobo nickels (an ongoing project), and conduct an annual auction of hobo nickels (at January FUN convention in Orlando at our annual meeting) to raise money to sponsor ANA scholarships for young numismatists (successfully done since 1995).

In the early 1980's, after articles and the first book on hobo nickels appeared, several people began creating copies of the old hobo nickels. these are fairly easy to recognize as modern. But since 1995, some very talented engravers have been producing beautiful original-design carvings; these are worth as much as the nice old original specimens, which they may resemble. The OHNS is devoted to collectors of all hobo nickels, both old and modern.

Dues in OHNS are as follows: \$15.00 for one year (or 3 years for \$42.00, or 5 years for \$65.00). Junior members (under age 19 and Associate Members (same household thus able to share all mailings) \$7.50 per year. Life Membership is \$250.00.

Included is a subscription to our quarterly journal, *Bo Tales* and the annual auction catalogue. Each issue of *Bo Tales* (except for the December auction catalogue issue) contains news, illustrated articles on hobo nickels and the artists who made (or currently make) them, articles on hobo history and related collectibles (such as old hobo postcards and modern struck hobo tokens), historic old hobo cartoons, etc. Members may borrow items from our hobo library, participate in the auctions, write articles, and buy our annual hobo tokens and publications, often at a discount. We have about 350 active members, and welcome more. The club is educational, service oriented, charitable and fun!

Please visit our new web site at:

**[www.hobonickels.org](http://www.hobonickels.org)**





## THE ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY, INC.

The OHNS is a nonprofit organization, incorporated in the State of Florida, and is dedicated to the study and appreciation of Hobo Nickels and related carved coins.

### OHNS MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

Please enroll/renew me as a member in the Original Hobo Nickel Society, Inc., as indicated.

- ☐ 1 Year @ \$15.00      ☐ 3 years @ \$42.00      ☐ 5 Years @ \$65.00  
☐ Life Membership @ \$250.00      ☐ Youth (under 19) @ \$7.50 per year      ☐ Associate @ \$7.50 per year  
☐ Renew my membership, my number is; \_\_\_\_\_ (shares all mailings)

- ☐ Please send me a Submission Form for the Hobo Nickel Examination.  
☐ I am enclosing a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the OHNS Scholarship Program.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Moniker (nickname): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**I agree to abide by the Society's Code of Ethics.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **The Original Hobo Nickel Society**

and mail to: **OHNS, 12000 Sunset Ridge, Ozawkie, KS. 66070-6045**

### NEW *Members*

RM 642 Joseph Paonessa, WI.  
RM 643 Edward Tills, NY.  
RM 644 Sherwood Cassell, IL.  
RM 645 Paul Drucker, FL.  
AM 646 Larry Wilkey, IL.  
RM 647 Denny Donnell, Jr., MO.  
RM 648 George Conger, CO.  
RM 649 Dan Owen, VA.  
RM 650 Stephen Schniper, AL.  
RM 651 Roger Fery, MI.  
AM 652 Jim Best, FL.  
RM 653 Don Bryan, TX.  
RM 654 Dean Crnkovich, PA.  
RM 655 Gary Lewis, FL.

RM 656 Michael Michel, CA.  
RM 657 David Morgan, OH.  
RM 658 Andrew Reiber, IL.  
RM 659 Mark Smithson, PA.  
RM 660 James Sparks, TN.  
RM 661 Cheryl Tompkins, FL.  
RM 662 John Zuhlke, FL.  
RM 663 Chuck Baker, CO.

Welcome all of you to one of the  
most enjoyable hobbies you will  
ever be involved in.....Happy  
Collecting.....

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stephen Alpert

### NEW GUIDEBOOK

The OHNS head honcho hoboes here have been hoppin' lately, keeping up with all that's been happening. First our *OHNS Hobo Guidebook* is out and has been selling fairly well. If only most of our members would buy a copy, if they haven't as yet, we'd surpass our publishing costs and start generating some much-needed revenue into our Treasury.

### HOBO TOKENS

Secondly, we had our annual meeting and auction in Orlando in January, which you will read about in this issue. And a slew of new hobo tokens made their appearance at FUN - our three-piece 2002 OHNS hobo token set (in copper, silver, and 22K gold - WOW!), the long awaited and low mintage Bo Tales Literary Award hobo tokens (in silver!), and the two silver 2002 Gallery Mint hobo tokens (which were available at Ron Landis' workshop booth at FUN opposite our OHNS bourse table). OHNS Vice President Archie Taylor, and his son Archie II, did a great job of supervising the OHNS booth and selling dozens of the Guidebooks as well as hobo tokens and mini-buffalo nickel replicas, and of course signing up new members.

### NEW OFFICERS

Things are a bit unsettled right now as we are making the transition to a new Secretary (Verne Walrafen), a new Treasurer (Gail Baker), and a new *Bo Tales* Editor (Roger Wollam), and a new printer for *Bo Tales*. Roger and his printer are working to give a new look to *Bo Tales*, and we hope you like the results. Thanks to previous Secretary Jeff Daniher, Treasurer James Taylor, and Editor Roman Luzecky for jobs well done.

### OHNS LIBRARY RELOCATES

At the January Board Meeting, it was voted to transfer our OHNS Library to the American Numismatic Association Library in Colorado Springs, Colo. They will house our library, which will be available to all OHNS and ANA members. New instructions for borrowing books will be pre-

sented in *Bo Tales*, after the move of our library.

Our Librarian, Roger Wollam, will continue to compile a list of the books, which will be published in *Bo Tales*. But up to now there has been no book borrowing activity from OHNS members. That is a shame, as I have read all the books in our library, and most are extremely entertaining.

There are three main types of hobo books:

- 1) Books written by hoboes chronicling their many traveling and working adventures. These books usually consist of many short chapters, each on a specific episode, adventure or anecdote.
- 2) Books written by scholarly historians and sociologists about hoboes.
- 3) Books written (during the past few decades) by journalists, photographers, and recreational hoboes, who hopped trains or visited hobo jungles and interviewed and photographed the old-timer hoboes they encountered.

So consider reading some of these books. You'll learn a lot about what life was like being a hobo back in the early to mid 20th century.

### WEST COAST MEETINGS

For those members in southern California, and those attending the Long Beach Coin Expo (three times a year, usually Feb., Jun, Oct.), don't forget to attend the informal OHNS get-together on Saturday afternoon at each show. The next meeting is June 8th. A dozen members usually attend, to get the latest news, and show-swap-discuss hobo nickels. See you there.....

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT

President Steve Alpert called the January 12, 2002 meeting of the OHNS Board of Directors to order at 8:15 am. Present at the meeting were; President Steve Alpert, Vice President Archie Taylor, Secretary Jeff Daniher, Treasurer James Taylor, Immediate Past President Bill Fivaz, and Board of

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Governors members Gail Baker, Fred Benson and Don Farnsworth. Not present were our current Editor Roman Luzecky, the incoming Editor Roger Wollam and incoming Secretary Verne Walrafen.

The first item of discussion was the status of the OHNS library. During the discussion, it was suggested that the OHNS library be housed at the ANA library. Archie mentioned that this would be the equivalent of getting a full time librarian for no cost. Gail pointed out that the books would be available to both OHNS members and ANA members. The books would appear in the on-line listing that the ANA maintains. Bill suggested that a membership application be included with any books that were borrowed by non-OHNS members. It was suggested that the listing of the items in the library be updated annually and be included with the annual auction catalog. The motion to have the OHNS library housed by the ANA was passed unanimously.

The second item of discussion was whether or not it made sense to continue expending \$100 for books for the library. After a brief discussion concerning how few people had actually borrowed items, the motion to stop spending money for new materials was passed 6 to 3, with Jeff, James and Steve voting in favor of a continued allocation of resources for the purpose of adding to the library.

The third topic addressed was the donation of copies of the current OHNS guidebook to the ANA library. It was decided to donate four copies to the ANA library, one of which would be the OHNS library copy and one copy to the Token and Medal Society. The motion passed unanimously.

Some time was then spent discussing modifications to Bo Tales. Since neither editor was present, it was decided to table any further suggestions until cost information was available. The possible changes mentioned, included glossy paper, and plastic bags/labels for mailing. Gail suggested that a font size of at least 12 points be maintained. Several columns were also mentioned, including Ask Nick, a book review of the current guidebook, and a column highlighting some examples of items sold on eBay with prices realized. It was noted that Verne has offered to assist with this project by capturing some of the images of items that were sold

on eBay along with their prices realized. It is understood that this will be a highly selective process and the goal of the column is to provide additional information to the membership without attempting to be all-inclusive.

The fifth item was the topic of membership cards. No cards had been mailed out during the last two years. Jeff mentioned that to the best of his knowledge, cards had never been produced. (Later, during the general session, a member did show Jeff a card and asked for a new one!) It was decided during the meeting that additional cards would not be produced. In answer to a query as to how members would know their number, this information has been listed above the member's name on every mailing label along with the year their membership expires.

The sixth topic for discussion concerned a 'permanent' address for the OHNS. Gail reintroduced her suggestion that when an item of lasting duration was created, such as a guidebook, that an address with longer duration than that of the secretary be used. Bill's PO Box was listed in the current issue of the Guidebook. Much debate as to the merits of a more permanent address took place, with Jeff and Gail putting forth the recommendation that the ANA's address be used. Other board members questioned the need for a permanent address. The issue was not resolved. The address of the secretary will continue to be used.

Don asked if the club would accept advertising of items other than hobo nickels. It was decided that the club would continue to accept only hobo related advertisements and items such as buffalo nickels were too far off topic.

The treasurer's report was given. For details, please see the information included in this issue of Bo Tales.

The secretary's report on membership was given. As of the date of the meeting, current membership was at about 299, with about 60 members not yet responding to the dues notice. An updated report will be included in the next issue of Bo Tales.

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**ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY, INC.  
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF  
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2001**

Beginning Balance	\$10,289
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 3,061
<b>General Fund Revenues</b>	
Dues, New members (34)	\$ 745
Dues, Renewals (104)	1,642
Merchandise & Book Sales	2,328
Authentication	1,260
2001 Auction commission	2,593
Donations	185
Bank Interest on Checking Acct.	199
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,952</b>
<b>General Fund Expenses</b>	
Supplies & Miscellaneous	\$ 65
Postage	874
Authentication	473
Merchandise	820
Annual Meeting, FUN 2001	83
FUN Table	125
Florida Corporation Fee	61
Florida Department of Revenue	50
Website	113
Photocopies	87
Post Office Box	45
Bo Tales	2,500
Dues (ANA)	29
Bank Fees	5
ANA Sum. Conf.(2 adults, 2YN's)	3,857
Library	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,303</b>
<b>Loans for Hobo Guidebook Publication</b>	
Bill Fivaz	\$ 2,500
Don Farnsworth	500
Archie Taylor	1,000
Steve Alpert	1,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,100</b>
Closing Balance	\$15,303
Certificate of Deposit	3,080
<b>Total Balance on Hand</b>	<b>\$18,380</b>
<b>Bills Outstanding</b>	
Hobo Guidebook Print. & Ship	\$ 5,975
Gallery Mint (tokens)	2,825

**OHNS AUCTION #10 FINANCIAL REPORT**  
by Stephen Alpert, Auction Manager

Our January 12, 2002 OHNS auction 10 consisted of 121 lots from 19 different consignors. There were 18 mail bidders, 15 of whom won lots.

There were 19 successful floor bidders. In all, 34 members bought something from the auction.

The total hammer price was \$18,843.00. (This does not include the 10% auction manager's fee) which came to \$4,165.23.

In addition, 11 donated items were auctioned off prior to Auction 10. These sold for a total of \$305 (no 10% buyers fee), and consisted of: 2 large plastic hobo nickel cases @ \$10, three modern hobo nickels by Michael Pezak (\$20, 40, 60), a Hobo Nickel Guidebook signed by OHNS officers and modern carvers @ \$45, an old hobo book by "A No.1" @ \$50, a Franklin Mint mini-buffalo nickel (8mm) @ \$10, a "How to Carve Hobos" woodcarving book @ \$15, a group of Mardi Gras doubloons (hobo themed) @ \$20 and an Eddings hobo nickel @\$25.

So Auction 10 and the pre-auction of donations together brought in \$4,470.23. This may seem like a lot, but about \$2,800.00 of this amount had to pay for the printing and mailing of the auction catalogue. Some consignors lost money on certain lots (lower quality hobo nickels, hobo tokens, modern hobo nickels). Hopefully fewer such lots will be consigned to future auctions. It costs us over \$20 per lot in catalogue printing and mailing expenses. We are considering changing the seller's fee in future auctions to 5% of the hammer price, or \$10.00, whichever is higher.



e-Bay  
Derby Hobo  
1/20/2002  
\$84.00

e-Bay  
1933 Hobo  
1/6/2002  
\$137.50  
Reserve Not Met



## MAIL and FLOOR AUCTION #10

By John and Nancy Wilson, NLG

The Original Hobo Nickel Society Mail and Floor Auction #10 was held on Saturday, January 12, 2002. It was held in conjunction with the Florida United Numismatists Coin Convention (January 10-13, 2002) at the Orange County Convention Center located on International Drive in Orlando Florida. The OHNS meeting and sale were held between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M., in room 231B of the Convention Center. FUN is an excellent location to have the membership meeting and auction. OHNS receives a table on the club bourse (minimal costs) and also a well lit room to have it's meeting and auction. The FUN organization is to be congratulated for all that they do to promote the hobby and collecting and running an absolutely fabulous annual convention. It is nice that OHNS is a small part of the success of the FUN convention.

When we received the auction catalog, weeks before the sale, we were once again impressed at the nice material that would cross the block. Besides the OHNS publication "Bo Tales", the other great member benefit is that you are able to bid in lots that are in this annual sale. We always look forward to the Hobo Nickel events at the FUN show, especially the auction. This probably was the largest auction that OHNS has ever held. The sale contained 121 lots of material (all photographed), that was in condition from crude to superior, and everything in between. As examples; Lot #94 contained a crude quality example of a Bearded man wearing a hat, on a 1913P T2 (VF). This OHNS donor piece sold for only \$5, which was about \$10 less than what it should have sold for. About nine lots sold for \$5, which, in my opinion, is not enough for a hobo nickel. On the other hand, Lot #24 contained a hobo of a Bearded man wearing a derby on a 1915P (F), Reg. #F-625, probably from artist Bert Weigand. Quality graded Superior, by Fivaz and Above Average (high), by Alpert. This piece drew some great interest from the book and floor bidders. Quoting Fivaz, "a superior carving by one of the two top early hobo artists," and "The long, sweeping lines of the hair and beard are the trade-

marks of Bert (and Bo, his student), as is the hat/hatband design." After opening at \$900, it sold, after a fierce battle, to the strong book for \$1,800. A decent price for such an example from Bert. Hobos from the following artists were sold in this sale; Steve Adams, Sam Alfano, Rough Beard, Frank Brazzell, John Dorusa, Peanut Ear, Telephone Ear, Eddings, Ron Haas, George Washington "Bo" Hughes, Arthur Hutchison, Wild Man, Bill Zach (Bill Jameson), Bert Weigand and possibly J.Allen or J. Press. Fourteen Bo's were represented in this sale. It would be great sometime if the members of the OHNS could find out how many Bo's were made during his lifetime? We will also comment that with a table on the bourse everyone is able to look at the lots before the sale starts.

The auction room was over half full with about 40 excited hobo collectors when I (John) arrived. The OHNS meeting had just ended and the auction was set to go. The auctioneer was again, Bill "Zemo" Fivaz. Stephen "The Big One" Alpert handled the book and opening bids. How can you beat a team like that, "Zemo and The Big One?" The above and below prices do not include the 10% buyer's fee. Eighty of the 121 lots had starting mail bids. This certainly helped to speed up the sale. It also assisted bidders with prioritizing strategies on how they were going to spend their money. On with the sale highlights. The sale actually started with some donation material for the scholarship fund. The 11 lots contained some nice material that included; references, modern hobo nickels, capital plastic holders and other items. After the donation auction ended, the main auction lots were sold.

Lot #1 contained an unknown artist piece of a Bearded man wearing a derby on a 1913P T1, .5 (VG). Quality - Above Average, graded by Fivaz and Alpert, it opened at \$80 and sold to a floor bidder for \$140. The John Dorusa, Andy Gump on a 1929P, .5 (G) hobo in lot #4, quality - Average by Fivaz and Alpert opened at \$75 and sold to the floor for \$95. The Frank Brazzell Rabbi 1935P .5 (VG)

(continued on page 5)



(Mail and Floor Auction #10 - continued from page 4)

hobo in quality - Average by Fivaz and Alpert, opened at \$50 and sold at that minimum bid. Lot #10 containing an unknown artist hobo depicting Goofy Gus (cartoon character) on a 1909 Lincoln Cent (EF) quality - Superior by Fivaz and Superior (low) by Alpert, opened at \$30 and sold to the book for \$100. The Potty Dollar 1876CC Trade \$ (VG) unknown artist in quality - Above Average by Fivaz and Average (high) by Alpert, opened at \$140 and sold to the book for \$180. Nine satirical tokens didn't do well in this sale. Lot #17 highlighted the group - George III with a beard, curly hair on an 1806(?) Great Britain Half Penny, quality - Average by Fivaz and Alpert, opened at \$10 and sold to the floor for \$35. A scarce hobo with bearded man wearing a hat on a 1913P, T2 (EF) was in Lot #25. This unknown artist, totally carved example, was quality - Above Average by Fivaz and Superior by Alpert. With the book bid at \$260, it sold to the floor for \$650.

Lot #28 containing a Clown wearing a hat on a Buffalo nickel-P, T2 (AU), Alpert and Farnsworth both gave it a quality - Superior. It opened and sold to the book for \$970. It was mentioned that this was done in 1950, which was the height of Bo's carving techniques. The following lot of a Cameo of Weasel on a Buffalo nickel-P, T2 (AU), also graded by Alpert and Farnsworth as Superior, opened at \$875 and sold to the book for \$950. Lot #33, an Indian Chief on a 1937P (AU) in Above Average and Above Average (high) quality, opened at \$40 and sold for \$350. Lot #71 contained a quality - Superior (low) by Fivaz and Alpert. It was of a Wavy-haired man (Bert) No date (VF). This totally carved nice original toned example by Bo, opened at \$350 and sold to the book for \$700. Bo's sold for prices from \$75 (somewhat low, even for an average piece) to \$1,800. Some past OHNS auctions have contained some incredible examples of Bo's and Bert's. This sale had a fairly nice run of Bo's, but we don't think it was near the carving quality of some past sales. We will wait and see what the next sale brings for us from the premier early carvers.

A possible Peanut Ear was Lot #38. Quality Above Average (low) by Alpert and Average (high)

by Farnsworth. This carved and punched hobo of a Bearded man wearing a derby on a 1913P, T2 (F), opened at \$50 and sold to the floor for \$150. An unknown artist (Telephone Ear) was Lot #44, quality - Above Average by Fivaz and Alpert, had a minimum bid of \$125 and sold to the floor for \$150. Zemo commented that this was a good price. Lot #53, a totally carved Bearded man wearing a derby, on a miniature buffalo nickel replica by Sam Alfano, quality - Superior by Alpert and Fivaz, sold to the opening book bid of \$260. This was said to be the first carved miniature buffalo nickel. It was donated by the artist, Sam Alfano. On a coin donated by Steve "The Big One" Alpert, Lot #54 contained an interesting two sided carving, by an unknown artist, on a no date-P, T2 coin. Quality - Average (high) by Fivaz and Superior (low) by Farnsworth, the hobo depicted a Bearded man wearing a derby on one side and pawnbroker balls on the other. With a \$305 book bid, it eventually sold to the book for \$500, after some interest was generated from the floor. Hobo postcards were in lot #65. The 20 (2 duplicates opened at \$50 and sold to the book for \$90. Other lots of hobo postcards were in the sale also. We constantly look for these cards at post card shows and believe us, they are hard to find.

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## "WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOUR DAD SAYS?"

by Archie "Rollie" Taylor

What do you do when your dad says, "I am in charge of getting coverage for the OHNS table," and things don't go quite as he thinks? You, as number one oldest son, anchor your butt into a chair, at the FUN show, and have the time of your life.

What you say is, "A HOB0 Nickel?" I bet I heard that 1,000 times over the period of three days and every time the answer was different, because the people asking had all age groups covered. From the Great Grandfather to the 5 year old who could not even say numismatist. It is real easy to make a be-

(continued on page 6)

liever out of anyone with a copy of the new OHNS Guidebook, and the display of nickels that the association has in front of each person.

This years show was the best as far as coverage at the table at this FUN Show. I can't remember everyone's name but thank you for helping with all aspects, setup, getting information there to hand out, and giving me breaks to go to the bathroom. Everyone that stopped, went away with information about OHNS and HOBO's. A special thanks to Steve Alpert and the board for signing copies of the new guidebook for anyone that purchased one. This year, any new member that signed up at the show received a Hobo Nickel, donated by the HOBONICKELGUY, Mike Pezak, from Las Vegas.

Auctions have their way of keeping the crowd on their toes and this one was just that. The crowd came from all over the USA and spent a lot of dollars on HOBO's. The donated coins brought enough to give a complete scholarship on it's own. The coins were good and the time was fun.

There was a swap and shop, and coin sale after the auction for anyone that was there. Good deals were made after the auction and next year we look to expand the sale, with tables set so members can share and trade coins while everyone is together.

So there you have it in a nutshell, three days later the show is over, you get up from your chair,

stretch your legs, and say, "OKAY DAD, where have you been for three days?" Really, it was like that, it is fun if you can spend three days with your dad doing something you both love to do.

Next year I have an open invitation to any member of OHNS. Come spend from 10 minutes to 10 hours behind your clubs' table at the FUN show and you will be hooked too.

If any member has a stash of HOBO's that they would be willing to donate or any carver that would be willing to provide nickels, if we had 1000 HOBO's to hand out, we could easily gain new members and get the word out that OHNS is the place to go for HOBO's. Any and every kid at the show would now have a collection of HOBO nickels.

Please contact me at; [rollieshobos@msn.com](mailto:rollieshobos@msn.com) for any questions or followup to the show this year.



OHNS Bourse Table FUN 2001 - Don Charters, Rita Sledz, Don Haley & Archie Taylor Jr.

Tenth Anniversary OHNS token, obv. & rev. More information in this issue. Make sure you get yours while they last.....



e-Bay  
1913D type 2  
1/4/2002  
No Bid @ \$69.99



# Original Hobo Nickel Society Auction #10 Prices Realized



LOT #	HAMMER PRICE	LOT #	HAMMER PRICE	LOT #	HAMMER PRICE	LOT #	HAMMER PRICE
1	\$ 140	31	\$ 250MB	61	\$ 75MB	91,92,93	\$ PASS
2	140	32	75MB	62	5	94	5
3	25	33	350	63	5	95	20MB
4	10	34	250MB	64	72 tie MB	96	25MB
5	95	35	70	65	90MB	97	35
6	50MB	36	70	66	50	98	100
7	35	37	80	67	40	99	25MB
8	10	38	150	68	10MB	100	10MB
9	10MB	39	PASS	69	500	101	10
10	100MB	40	250MB	70	425MB	102	5
11	15MB	41	25MB	71	700MB	103	140MB
12	180	42	30MB	72	350	104	25
13	25MB	43	125	73	36	105	25MB
14	5	44	150	74	70	106	40
15	5	45	65	75	70MB	107	40MB
16	10	46	35	76	85MB	108	45MB
17	35	47	55	77	150	109	30
18	20	48	90MB	78	300	110	45
19	20	49	70	79	200	111	20
20	35	50	180	80	250MB	112	80
21	10	51	250	81	75	113	140
22	5	52	75	82	40	114	150
23	15	53	260MB	83	80	115	350
24	1,800MB	54	500MB	84	50	116	70
25	650	55	30	85	1,550	117	200
26	5	56	80	86	1,100MB	118	450MB
27	5	57	20	87	125	119	20
28	970MB	58	100	88	175	120	170
29	950MB	59	60	89	190MB	121	85
30	250	60	75	90	170		



## RARE HOBO REAL PHOTO POSTCARD

Sold on e-Bay

by Steve Alpert

A few months ago an amazing real photo old postcard of a hobo appeared on an e-Bay Internet auction. It is a photo of a hobo, standing outdoors, and holding a Sure Shot tobacco box that was probably full of his belongings. The photographer, Johnston, signed the photo and included the hobos' name; "Alfred Montgomery, Hobo". The postcard was not postally used, but had a penciled message on the back, something to the effect, "This is the tramp we fed last night", and a town was mentioned, but I can't remember what it was, it was a mid-western state, Indiana or Iowa. It dates circa 1910, this illustration was printed off the PC. I dropped out of bidding at \$125.00 it sold for about \$128.00.





## Only A Select Few Will Walk This Road

by Verne R. Walrafen

This is about a custom carved nickel, done for Arthur Hutchison by Master Engraver Steven Adams, of Robert E. Lee.

Arthur Hutchison had this to say: "Steve has taken carving up a notch with his portrait, design and sculpture of famous people to a point where few, if any, will follow with a similar high grade of work. When I saw Steve's 'Mark Twain' and his 'George W. Bush', I knew I had to have one. I think of myself as an advanced Hobo Carver, but by no means as a Master Carver as only a couple folks fit that description. I know the work, talent and time involved to turn an Indian Head into a nice high grade Hobo. Look at the Robert E. Lee, George W. Bush and Mark Twain carvings and you will know that only a select few will walk this road. When I have a down and out day carving myself, I can look



at this carving and know what is possible to do when carving a Hobo Nickel, if the Good Lord sees fit for me to live that long."

Steven Adams contributed this: "You can see the direction

I'm going. More portraits. I call these carvings a token of my existence. They'll be around long after

I'm gone, to be shared by different owners as they pass from one generation to the next. Kind of an interesting thought that is both pleasant and amusing."

Verne Says, "I captured the scans to create the above progression scan from Arthur's webpage; **Robert E. Lee** {<http://community-2.webtv.net/Coinjockey/ROBERTELEEbuySteve>}. You can see Steve's Bush and Twain carvings on Arthur's webpage; **Carver Steven Adams** {<http://community-2.webtv.net/coinjockey/doc>}. I believe the Lord has blessed us when he gives us folks with special talents. Steven and Arthur are two such individuals."

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### The Hobo

Borrowed from the Orange Peel Gazette  
pg 7, volume 2, issue 17  
Donated by "Rollie"

A hobo came up to the front door of this neat looking farm house and knocked gently on the door. When the owner answered, the hobo asked, "Please sir, could you give me something to eat? I haven't had a good meal in several days."

The owner said, "I have made a fortune in my life time by supplying goods for people. I never give anything away for nothing. However, if you go around the back, you will see a gallon of paint and a clean paint brush. If you will paint my porch, I will give you a good meal."

So the hobo went around back and a little later he again knocked on the door. The owner said, "Finished already? Good, come on in. Sit down, the cook will bring your meal right in."

The hobo said, "Thank you very much sir. But there is something that I think you should know, it's not a porch, it's a BMW."

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT?

*Editors note: This is time sensitive material and should be taken as information for the future.*

One of the founding missions of OHNS is to support education through scholarships to the ANA Summer Seminar. It was decided to continue in 2002 with a \$500 contribution to the ANA YN scholarship fund. This will be used to partnership with ANA to award one full OHNS/ANA scholarship to a YN selected by the ANA scholarship committee.

YNs who are interested in receiving the OHNS/ANA scholarship should submit a scholarship application to Gail Baker at the ANA. Applications are available on the ANA web site at <http://www.money.org/sumsemynscholar.html>.

In addition, OHNS will pay up to \$1,000 for one member to attend the Seminar. \$525 of this goes to ANA to pay for tuition, housing and meals; the remainder is used to reimburse travel costs and is paid directly to the selected member.

All OHNS members who have paid their dues through 2002 are eligible to receive a full scholarship (tuition, dormitory room at the Colorado College, meals, and travel expenses up to \$475) to attend one week of the ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs. Everyone who is interested in attending should contact Gail Baker before February 28, 2002. Please include your name, OHNS number, address, phone number, e-mail address and date-of-birth. Names are placed into the proverbial hat and one name is selected *at random* on March 2, 2002.

Gail Baker can be contacted via e-mail at: [education@money.org](mailto:education@money.org) or by snail mail at:

**The American Numismatic Association  
Gail Baker, Director of Education  
818 North Cascade Avenue  
Colorado Springs, CO. 80903  
Phone: 719-632-2646, ext. 153**

A course catalog with dates of the Seminar,

other information and a listing of classes are available at [www.money.org](http://www.money.org) under **Educational Programs**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any member who has 2001 on his/her mailing label and who has not paid the \$15 yearly OHNS dues for 2002 will receive only the first issue of Bo Tales this year and is NOT eligible for the OHNS scholarship, Dues should be sent to:

**OHNS: Verne R. Walrafen, Secretary  
12000 Sunset Ridge  
Ozawkie, KS. 66070**

### OHNS Hobo Nickel Guidebook

Letter from Don Anderson, Ohio - as submitted  
by Steve Alpert

Mr. Alpert

The book is beautiful, well laid out and easy to read. I am so glad I ordered it. I saw some somewhat like my nickel, but just not sure. Thank you very much for looking at my nickel. I would like to have a couple more but I am on SS and can't invest very much on each nickel. Are there some for sale, somewhere that I may try and obtain for around \$10 or less per? Any direction you can point me, I would appreciate.

Many Thanks  
Don



It is a standard design, with a small shallow hat, altered profile, small ear, and apparently carved hair, beard, and mustache. There's a shirt and coat collar. The field is ornamented with concentric zigzag wriggle cuts, creating a nice background. It is on an S-mint buffalo nickel.

## OHNS Literary Award Token

submitted by Bill Fivaz and Roger Wollam  
token by Ron Landis

What a great idea, "Bo" with a quill behind his ear on the obverse and YOUR personally engraved name on the reverse, well the Board is still discussing that.....Wouldn't you like to have one of these? This one is Bill "Zemo" Fivaz's, but that is what it is designed for, YOU..... All you have to do is submit an original full page article to me, your Editor at; OHNS Editor, 881 N. Sundown Dr., Otis, Oregon 97368. When your article is published, you will receive your very own Literary Award Token by Ron Landis, at the next regular meeting in Orlando, January 2003..... Here, take a good look at it, now tell me, wouldn't you like to have one of these? Then you can say that you received it for writing an article for a national newsletter?

You say you don't think you could do that.....Why not? If you include some pictures, you wouldn't have to write very much. Just remember I most likely won't use the pictures full size, so keep that in mind.

Send me something that I can print, an article, a letter, photos, just send it and let me figure out if I can use it. Don't worry about deadlines or publishing dates, that is my worry. Just remember, we do only have three issues of Bo Tales each year, so get to write'n. I only ask one thing of you, I have to read it in order to be able to put it to print, so it you are going to do it long hand, make it your very best. If you have a problem there, you may want to type it or have some one do it for you.

A full page original article, with or without photos, and if it is published this year, you will receive an OHNS Literary Award (limit one per year).

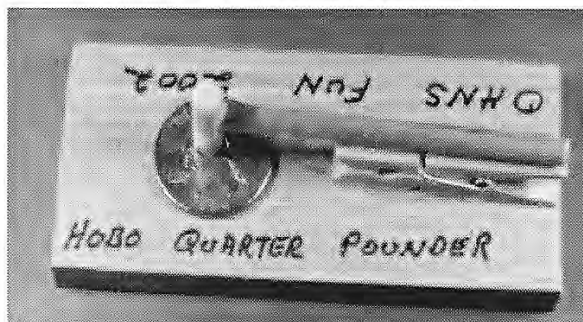


## HOBO SOUVENIR - 2002

submitted by Bill Fivaz

On a much lighter note, Kimsie "Spike" Cowart has done it again!!

First, in 2000 it was the railroad spike that he brought to the OHNS table and meeting and passed out to members. Last year, it was the "Hobo Washer and Dryer", a clothespin with a washer glued to the top. This year he showed up with his latest innovative creation - a **Hobo Quarter Pounder!**



As you can see, it is a 4"x2" piece of board with a quarter glued to it, and a small hammer glued to a tiny clothespin which, when squeezed, pounds the quarter!

Kimsie takes great delight in creating these souvenirs, and we all can't wait to see what novel offering he will come up with from year to year.

Any member wanting one of these souvenirs may contact Kimsie (please enclose a self addressed stamped envelope) for details. He may be reached at: J. Kimsie "Spike" Cowart, P.O.Box 3081, Cocoa, Florida 32924

Thanks, "Spike" - these are great remembrances of our annual meetings!



e-Bay  
1920  
1/13/2002  
\$21.55



# BYLAWS OF ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY, INC.

**ARTICLE I: OFFICES**

The principal office of the Corporation shall be in the State of Florida. The Corporation shall designate a registered office in accordance with Florida law and shall maintain it continuously. The Corporation may have offices at such other places within and without the State of Florida as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

SECTION 1: Membership is open to all persons and organizations interested in original hobo nickels.

SECTION 2: The governing Board of Directors shall have final authority to approve or disapprove membership.

SECTION 3: The membership shall consist of regular, junior, associate, charter life, life and chapter members. At the preference of the board, honorary memberships of any type may be awarded in accordance with section 8 below. Charter memberships were only available to those who joined the organization during the first year.

SECTION 4: Members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Corporation, including the right to vote, hold office and receive the official publication.

SECTION 5: Individual members shall be those persons elected as herein set forth:

A. Any individual of good moral character at least nineteen (19) years of age shall be eligible for regular membership.

B. Junior members shall be those individuals of good moral character of less than nineteen (19).

C. An associate membership is available to any person who shares a mailing address with a regular or junior member. Associate members do not receive any copies of the club publications but shall be entitled to all other privileges of the corporation.

SECTION 6: Coin clubs, societies, associations, museums, schools, libraries and kindred organizations may be considered for chapter membership.

SECTION 7: Life members shall be those individuals and chapter members approved as such as herein set forth:

A. Any individual or chapter applicant shall be eligible for life membership provided the application is approved by the Board of Directors.

B. Life membership numbers shall be preceded by the letters LM (or CLM in the case of Charter Life Members.)

SECTION 8: Yearly honorary membership may be conferred only by the Board of Directors upon any person who has rendered the Corporation or the science of numismatics, some particular or note worthy service considered deserving of this special and distinctive title.

SECTION 9: Application for membership.

A. Applications shall be in writing on a membership application form as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

B. Such application and the advance payment of dues shall be sent to the Secretary.

C. When the Board of Directors accepts the application, the applicant shall be admitted and notice of their name and state will be published in the next official publication.

D. In the event the application is rejected, the advance payment of dues shall be refunded to the applicant.

SECTION 10: The membership list shall generally be considered privileged and not distributed beyond the Corporation.

SECTION 11: The Board of Directors shall have the authority to expel any members for good cause.

SECTION 12: Membership is for the calendar year of January 1 through December 31.

SECTION 13: Annual dues.

A. Annual dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The Board may from time to time adjust dues.

B. Annual dues shall be payable on January 1 to maintain membership in good standing. Dues for new membership received after June 30 of any given year shall carry over through the end of the next full calendar year. Any member who fails to pay their renewal dues before March 1 of any year shall be converted to inactive on the membership roster and will be suspended from receiving mailings. It is suggested that an announcement appear in the first issue of Bo Tales each year that members who have not renewed will not receive any further publications from the club.

**ARTICLE III: MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

SECTION 1: The annual meeting of the members shall be held annually during the Florida United Numismatist (FUN) convention unless the Board of Directors deems otherwise.

SECTION 2: The Board of Directors as required may call additional meetings.

SECTION 3: At all meetings of the members of record having the right to vote, each member of the Corporation is entitled to one vote.

SECTION 4: A quorum necessary for the transaction of any business or any specified item of business at any meeting of the members shall be a majority of the members present.

#### **ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1: General Powers.

A. Subject to the limitations of the Articles of Incorporation, these bylaws, and the Florida Not For Profit Act, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of the Board of Directors, whose members shall consist of the elected officers of the Corporation, the elected directors, the immediate past president and the editor of the club publication. This body shall have executive power to control and manage the affairs of the Corporation.

B. Such members shall in all cases act as a Board, regularly convened by a majority, and they may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of their meetings and the management of the Corporation, as they may deem proper, not inconsistent with these bylaws and laws of the State of Florida.

SECTION 2: The Board of Directors shall hold its annual meeting at the same place as (and immediately preceding) each annual meeting of the members, the results of which shall be reported to the membership at the annual meeting. If necessary, as a result of comments or suggestions brought up by the membership at the annual meeting, the Board shall meet, as soon after that the meeting is deemed appropriate, with the results made available to the members in the next issue of the corporation publication.

SECTION 3: Regular meeting of the Board of Directors may be held without notice and at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4: The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors. The president may fix a reasonable time and place for holding them.

SECTION 5: Any action of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting, if consent in writing (electronic or otherwise), setting forth the action so taken and signed by a majority of the directors is filed in the minutes of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6: A majority of directors in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The vote of the majority of directors present at a meeting (at which a quorum is present) shall constitute the action of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7: Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office only until the next election of directors by members.

SECTION 8: All elected officers and directors will assume their duties at the last session of the annual meeting at which the election was held.

#### **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

SECTION 1: Elected officers will be a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. They shall serve for two years and can be eligible for reelection. All officers must be members in good standing.

SECTION 2: The number of directors at large shall be the number of directors elected from time to time in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and the bylaws, but shall never be less than three. Directors at large shall be elected by the members and shall serve for two years and can be eligible for reelection. All directors at large must be members in good standing.

SECTION 3: Appointed officers will be the editor of the official publication, the director of public relations, the auctioneer and the webmaster. Appointed officers will be appointed by the Board of Directors and will serve at the pleasure of the Board. Only the editor of the official publication shall be a voting officer. All appointed officers must be members in good standing.

SECTION 4: The immediate past president shall serve on the Board of Directors and shall have full voting privileges. This person's term shall continue until such time that they are no longer the immediate past president.

SECTION 5: Duties of the officers:

A. The president shall have general supervision over all affairs of the Corporation. His/her duties shall include, but not be limited to:

- 1) Preside at all meetings of the Corporation.
  - 2) Call meetings of the Board of Directors.
  - 3) Fill by temporary appointment any vacancy in an elective office, and remove same at will, until the Board of Directors fills such vacancy.
  - 4) Appoint temporary committees to serve at his/her will and pleasure.
  - 5) Issue a call for nomination of officers.
  - 6) Serve ex-officio as a member of all committees.
- B. The vice president shall:
- 1) Assist the president in the discharge of his/her duties.
  - 2) Preside in the absence of the president.
  - 3) Succeed to the presidency for the remainder of the elected term should the presidency become vacant.
- C. The secretary shall:
- 1) Receive all applications for membership and renewals; furnish each new member with a welcoming letter, copy of the Bylaws and a copy of the Code of Ethics and, if available, the last copy of the Corporation publication as soon as possible; keep detailed up-to-date membership records including changes to the membership caused by resignations, deaths, and those dropped because of failure to renew membership and those expelled by the Board of Directors; make regular revisions to the mailing list and provide up-to-date mailing labels to the publisher prior to the scheduled release of each corporation publication; and provide the editor with a list of new members according to the publication schedule.
  - 2) In the event of a contested election, prepare and mail ballots for the election of the Corporation officers as prepared in accordance with the bylaws.
  - 3) Hold such returned ballots unopened and in confidence until the annual meeting.
  - 4) Keep a true record of the Corporation.
  - 5) Send out notices of all forthcoming Board of Director meetings to members of the board when notified of such by the current president of the organization.
  - 6) Keep a true record of the Board of Directors meetings and send a copy of it to all Board members within two weeks of the meeting.
  - 7) Prepare changes of the bylaws.
- D. The treasurer shall:
- 1) Receive and deposit all funds paid to the Corporation; prepare an annual statement and have it reported in the official publication of the Corporation.
  - 2) Prepare an accounting of all funds received and dispersed, and give a final report at the end of the fiscal year to the Board of Directors.
  - 3) Pay out money only on warrants drawn by the president, vice president, secretary, editor or other individuals that the Board of Directors may authorize.
- E. The editor shall:
- 1) Supervise, edit, secure ads and cause to be published and mailed to eligible members the official publication.
  - 2) solicit and publish material related to the study of original hobo nickels, as well as material of interest to the members.
  - 3) refuse to publish any material deemed to be inappropriate or libelous.
- F. The director of public relations shall:
- 1) Promote the Corporation through press releases to all numismatic media outlets.
  - 2) Ensure that a club table is available for the Corporation at all numismatic conventions where the Corporation plans to have one and schedule volunteers to man it during the hours the convention is open.
  - 3) Develop new ideas and implement them to:
    - a) Obtain new members.
    - b) Retain as many of the current members as possible.
  - 4) Solicit articles for publication in the official publication.
- G. The auction manager shall:
- 1) Solicit consignments as considered acceptable by the Board of Governors.
  - 2) Arrange for the preparation of the auction catalog.
  - 3) Arrange for the sale of accepted consignments.



- 4) Collect proceeds, deliver lots, and remit amounts to consignors less club's commission.
- 5) Prepare prices realized listing.
- 6) The auction manager will receive 4% of the hammer price of each lot sold.

H. The Webmaster shall:

- 1) Be responsible for all changes and modifications to the club's website as determined to be necessary from time to time.
- 2) Report to the Board of Directors appropriate information regarding the number and types of unique visitors to the club's site.

SECTION 6: Each officer at the expiration of his/ her term shall have ready and without undue delay, deliver to his/her successor all books, monies, papers and other properties of the Corporation in his/her possession.

#### **ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS**

SECTION 1: A call for nomination of officer shall be issued in the second issue of the official Corporation publication prior to an election in a timely fashion.

SECTION 2: The immediate past president and two members-at-large will serve as the nominating committee. The president shall appoint the members-at-large plus any other member necessary to replace a past president who is unable to serve. Additionally, candidates may be nominated from the membership at large. Each must be endorsed by at least three members in good standing with a copy of said nomination, written consent of the nominee and a brief biography of the nominee to be delivered to the secretary and the nominating committee three months prior to the annual meeting. All nominees must have their current year's dues paid in full. No person who is a candidate for president or vice president shall be a candidate for any other office.

SECTION 3: The nominating committee shall deliver the slate of officers to the secretary three months prior to the annual meeting in an election year. It is suggested that information regarding the candidates be published in the third issue of Bo Tales each year.

SECTION 4: If there is no opposition, nominees shall automatically be declared elected unanimously by the secretary at the annual meeting. If there is more than one nominee for any office or directorship, ballots shall be mailed to members six weeks prior to the annual meeting in an election year. The secretary must receive ballots seven working days prior to the annual meeting to be eligible. Write-in votes for Corporation members only shall be counted and considered.

SECTION 5: If necessary, the president shall appoint a committee to tally ballots at the annual meeting. In case of a tie for any office, the Board of Directors at the annual meeting shall, by secret ballot, determine the winner.

#### **ARTICLE VII: PUBLICATION**

The official publication of the Corporation shall be known as Bo Tales. It shall be published and distributed in accordance with the bylaws and in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: CORPORATION YEARS**

SECTION 1: The fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31.

SECTION 2: The membership year shall be from January 1 to December 31.

#### **ARTICLE IX: NONPROFIT OPERATION**

SECTION 1: No part of the earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, Director or Officer of the Corporation or any other person (except that the Corporation may pay reasonable compensation for services rendered to or on behalf of the Corporation and make other payments and distributions in furtherance of one or more of its purposes), and no member Director or Officer of the Corporation, or any other person shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the Corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation.

SECTION 2: No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall consist of attempting to influence legislation, by propaganda or otherwise, to an extent that would disqualify it for tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. the Corporation shall not participate directly or indirectly, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. The Corporation shall not have the objectives nor engage in activities that would characterize it as an "action organization" as defined in Treasury Regulation 501(c)(3), as it now exists or may be hereafter amended.

SECTION 3: Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Corporation shall not conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, and Treasury Regulations thereunder as

they now exist or as they may be hereafter amended, or by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) and 2055(a) of such Code and Treasury Regulations thereunder as they now exist or as they may be hereafter amended.

SECTION 4: Upon the dissolution of the Corporation or the winding up of its affairs, all of the assets of the Corporation shall be distributed to such organizations which then qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, as the Board of Directors may direct.

SECTION 5: In order to accomplish the purposes and to attain the objects for which this Corporation is formed and for which the funds and property of this Corporation shall be handled, administered, operated and distributed as hereinabove set forth, the Corporation, its Directors and Officers, shall possess and exercise all powers, authorities and privileges granted by and allowed under the laws of the State of Florida, subject to the limitation and condition that, notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, only such powers shall be exercised as are in furtherance of the Federal income tax exempt purposes of the Corporation and as may be exercised by an organization exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and Treasury Regulations thereunder as they now exist or as they may be amended and by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Sections 170(c)(2) and 2055(a) of such Code and Treasury Regulations thereunder as they now exist or as they be hereafter amended.

#### ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be altered, amended, repealed or added to by the vote of the Board of Directors of this Corporation at any regular meeting of the Board, or at a special meeting of the directors called for that purpose, provided a quorum of directors are present at such regular or special meeting. These bylaws, and any amendments thereto and any new bylaws added by the directors may be amended, altered, repealed or added to by the members at any annual or special meeting of the members by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at such meeting.

These bylaws incorporate all changes and revisions through 2-7-2002. respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Daniher.

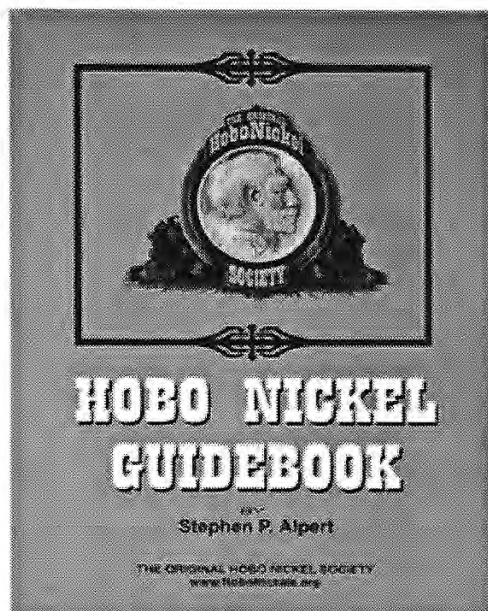
## Mission Accomplished!

by Verne Walrafen

I've been working on this project for roughly a year. Joe Rust couldn't find the profile shots of Ron that were taken a long time ago. Then Ron couldn't find them either. So we tried taking a picture with Ron's digital camera and managed to break it somehow.....I was touching it but I swear that I didn't do anything to it. This last trip I took my own photographer and do a whole series of pictures of Ron which I immediately sent to Bill (Janeson) Zach.



This wonderful Bill Zach carving represents the project's successful culmination and has been presented to Ron Landis for his personal collection but I wanted to share Bill's talent with you all.



## OHNS Hobo Nickel Guidebook

OHNS has just published its Hobo Nickel Guidebook authored by Stephen P. Alpert, which presents an up to date guide to hobo nickels and their values. Both classic old hobo nickels and modern creations are presented, with information on how to tell them apart. Over 700 enlarged photographs of hobo nickels are illustrated in the 126 page spiral-wire-bound book.

The purpose, methods of creation, and the components of hobo nickels are discussed. The most common type of hobo nickel is the standard design depicting a bearded man wearing a derby. Other subjects include ethnic figures, hatless men, soldiers, women, famous people, and altered buffalos (changed into a man or a different animal). All these are discussed and illustrated in the book.

The OHNS Quality Designation scale for hobo nickels (Crude to Superior) is explained, and examples and general values for each are given, along with the factors affecting a hobo nickel's desirability.

An Artist Gallery chapter covers dozens of old, nicknamed, and modern hobo nickel artists with examples of their work. And an Auction Photo Gallery illustrates hundreds of hobo nickels sold in past OHNS auctions, along with the hammer price of each. This is valuable information as the most desirable hobo nickels (both old and modern) sell for \$1,000 to \$2,000 apiece. Other chapters cover cast fakes, hobo tokens, and other similarly altered coins, both U.S. and foreign.

The book retails for \$30.00 plus \$2.50 shipping (add \$2.48 for sales tax in Calif.). Add another \$2.00 for Priority Mail if desired. OHNS members save \$5.00 (\$27.50 postpaid plus \$2.06 tax in Calif.). Mail your Guidebook orders to: Stephen P. Alpert, P.O.Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066. Make your check or money order payable to: Stephen P. Alpert.

## IN MEMORIAL

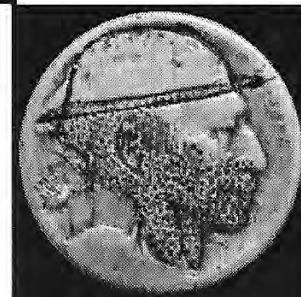
We want to take this time to acknowledge the passing of one of our own. Ernest Roscoe Buckles joined us October 1, 1997 and passed away on January 31, 2001. Ernest wanted his memorial to be the Hobo Nickel Society. He also wants to donate his Hobo Nickels to our organization. There were a couple of checks that came along with the announcement from Chuck Baker of Akron, Colorado.

It looks as though we will see Ernest's collection in the next OHNS Auction Catalog. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and we all say a hardy thank you for the contribution. It will be used for a good cause.



e-Bay  
1927  
1/20/2002  
NO BID  
\$99.99

e-Bay  
1/1/2002  
\$31.00





## 2002 OHNS Hobo Tokens



This year's OHNS Hobo Token issue celebrates our tenth anniversary. Ron Landis designed and cut the dies. Tokens are being struck in silver, copper, and 22K gold.

The copper tokens are \$10 each, the silver tokens are \$20 each, and the gold token is \$175, or you can purchase the 3-pc set for \$200.

Postage, shipping and insurance is extra: \$1 on orders of \$20 or less, \$2 on orders up to \$50, \$3 on orders

up to \$100, and \$4 for orders up to \$200. The gold strikes are being made to order, so there may be a delay in delivery. All hobo tokens are nickel size and thickness.

Make your orders out to: **Fred Benson, OHNS Sales, 9862 Hawthorn Glen, Grosse Isle, MI 48138.** Make your checks or money orders payable to: **OHNS**

**Notice to all 10th Anniversary OHNS Token Purchasers:** I have had a 2 1/2"x4" white plastic custom holder made for your token(s) if you would like to have them nicely displayed instead of loose or in a drawer somewhere. Illustrated here is what it looks like, and it can be ordered with one, two or three openings (as shown here). The cost to members is only \$11.00 (\$10.00 + \$1 postage). Please indicate how many openings you would like and the "flavor" of the coins to go in it (Copper, Silver or Gold).



Send your check to: Bill Fivaz, P.O.Box 888660, Dunwoody, GA 30356-0660. As these will be made on a "on-order" basis, please allow about 3-4 weeks for delivery. This is a really classy way to exhibit your 10th Anniversary tokens.



e-Bay  
1918  
Hobo  
1/6/2002  
\$26.01



e-Bay  
1935  
Cliff Kraft  
1/5/2002  
\$61.65



e-Bay  
No Date  
1/1/2002  
\$38.00

## Your Editor

I guess it is no more than right that you know something about your editor. I started collecting coins when I was 13, in 1954, Mercury dimes mostly, some Buffaloes and Indian Cents. By 1967 I had put together a complete set of uncirculated Mercury dimes, nice they were, and at today prices, I got them real cheap. However, back in those days I remember when I took home my first \$100 for a two week pay period. Silver dollars were still in the banks.

While in High School I was instrumental in starting a car club for those that were just getting their drivers licenses, safety was a motto..."Put Drag Racing on the race track, not the highway....."

Anyway, I have spent my life starting, and being in, different organizations, motor sports, dog sledding, r/c airplanes and coins.....Happened to be in Alaska when they started the Anchorage Coin Club, they still use the logo that I designed. I remain today member number 17, and will till I die.. Went to Tampa Florida from Alaska, change...Whoa! Man was it hot....! Started right out with the Tampa Coin Club, was there when it went to Tampa Bay Coin Club, did shows, held offices, wrote the newsletter too.....Yep! Won the ANA's Club Newsletter Award two years in a row, as did the Anchorage Coin Club.

I was instrumental in starting the ANA's Club Representative Programs Region 13 and served as Regional Coordinator. I can't say how many clubs I have belonged to, was on the Board of Governors for FUN, and enjoyed that very much, what a great bunch of people.....miss them all... I was at a FUN Convention that I visited a table with a bunch of very friendly people. They called themselves the Original Hobo Nickel Society.....well I tell you right now, that was for me.....I joined as a life member and carry the LM12 number....Glad of it too....

Yes I had to try my hand at making some of these great pieces of art.....I do cheat a little though, I use a Dremel tool and was doing pretty good too, until I had a stroke and that has made me pretty shakey at times. As soon as I get all set up here with my hobby table, I am going to try it again and see what happens, anyway, take a look:



"Somali Elder"



"Old Hippy"



"Aliut Hunter"  
(in hair seal hat)



"Kenian"



"Store Merchant"



I was reading a book about the Navajo Nation and came up with Bi-leen-ika-zhin "Black Horse" and his wife Ta-yo-ne-he "Tayoneh".

I have no idea why I have come up with these particular figures. I certainly have to be in the mood, I don't seem to be able to just start doing one.

I have more ideas in my head and I do believe that soon I will be doing more, but until then, I just show off what I have done to this point. I also have a George Washington that I had started before my stroke. It is not finished and I am not sure that I will finish it. It is kind of a reminder of where I was at that time. Until next issue, happy collecting and above all, HAVE FUN....."Twigg"

## BENSONS' BARGAIN BASEMENT



Mini Buffaloes compared to the regular

Here is Freds' inventory for the spring 2002 issue of Bo Tales; **Hobo Tokens** ....27 - 2001, 50 - 2002, 74 - **Miniture Tokens**. The regular tokens are \$20.00 each or two for \$35.00. The mini's are 50 cents each. If no insurance is included, they will be sent regular mail. If you want them insured, you will need to add \$1.10 for the first \$100 and then 50 cents for each \$50 there after.

The following **auction catalogs** are available; **January 95 and 96, August 96, January 97, 98, 00, 01 and 02.**

Catalogs are \$6.00 each including postage. Every catalog over two, add and additonal 75 cents.

The following **Bo Tales** are available; **1995 - July and December, 1996 - April and December, 1997 - August,**

**1998 - May, 1999 - March, July, August and September, 2000 - January and April, 2001 - January.** Bo Tales are \$4.00 each up to 4....5 - 8 copies add an additonal \$1.50 for postage.....over 8 add \$3.00.

If you didn't get your copy of one of the mini Buffaloes, here is your chance. They were available at the OHNS table during the FUN show, but if you weren't there, you can get some now, and they are only 50 cents each. **Orders should be sent to: Fred Benson, 9862 Hawthorn Glen, Grosse Ile, MI 48138** and make checks payable to: **Original Hobo Nickel Society.**

### OHNS Advertisement Policy and Rates

1. Prices quoted are for camera ready display copy.
2. Graphic layout and design @ \$25 per hour is available.
3. Pictures or graphics are encouraged.
4. Payment in full must be submitted with ads. Make checks payable to: Original Hobo Nickel Society.
5. All ads must be related to Hobo Nickels or associated materials or subject matter.
6. Dealers must adhere to our Code of Ethics.

*Numismatic flyers can be inserted and mailed with Bo Tales for as little as \$150.*

	Annual - 4 Publications	Single Issue - Bo Tales	Single - Auction Catalog
Full Page	\$225.00	\$100.00	\$125.00
Full Page w/Cover	\$250.00	XX	XX
Half Page Ad	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$100.00
Quarter Page Ad	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$75.00
Inside Cover	XX	XX	\$175.00





## THE ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY, INC.



### OHNS HOBO NICKEL QUALITY DESIGNATION SERVICE SUBMISSION FORM

This service for hobo nickels and hobo carvings is provided for members and nonmembers of OHNS. It is an independent opinion of the quality of carvings on US coins. All submissions are reviewed by two examiners, and each will receive a report form with a description of the carving, the quality grade, the carving technique, data on the host coin, the name of the probable artist, additional comments (such as if original or modern), and a photo. Originals, of the report and photograph, will be returned along with the coin to the owner and copies will be kept by (1) the examiner and (2) in the OHNS archives.

The cost is \$15.00 per coin for members, \$25.00 for nonmembers. There is a reduced rate for bulk submissions for members only. Each coin must be accompanied by a submission form, along with a check made out to; **Original Hobo Nickel Society**, and mailed, insured or registered, to one of the addresses on this submission form.

Each January at the FUN Convention in Orlando, Florida, the OHNS holds an auction of hobo nickels and related items for its members. Proceeds are use to generate scholarships for YN's and OHNS members to attend the annual ANA Summer Conference held each July in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Members may consign OHNS authenticated or examined specimens. The consignment fee is 5% and the buyer's fee is 10% of the hammer price. Consigned specimens will be published in the Official Auction Catalog and distributed each winter before the FUN Convention.

Submit to: Bill Fivaz  
P.O.Box 888660  
Dunwoody, GA. 30356-0660

Steve Alpert  
P.O.Box 66331  
Los Angeles, CA. 90066-0331

Owner's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ OHNS Membership# \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's value of coin (this information is necessary for insurance purposes): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Members submit: \$15.00 per coin or ten (10) or more coins - \$12.50 per coin.

Non Members submit: \$25.00 per coin. all fees include first class postage and \$100 insurance per coin.

For ADDITIONAL INSURANCE and/or REGISTERED MAIL, please enclose an additonal \$5.00 per coin.

The submitter understands that the opinions rendered are strictly that, opinions, and are not a guarantee that the item(s) are genuine. It is however, the best considered judgement by qualified specialists in the area, but others may reach different conclusions.

[ ] I authorize OHNS to use a photograph of this coin. [ ] I authorize OHNS to use my name (not address).

Signature of Submitter \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_